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National Intelligence Daily

Thursday
1 July 1982

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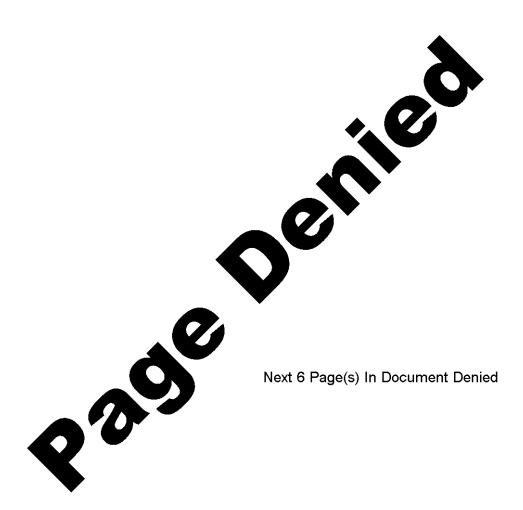
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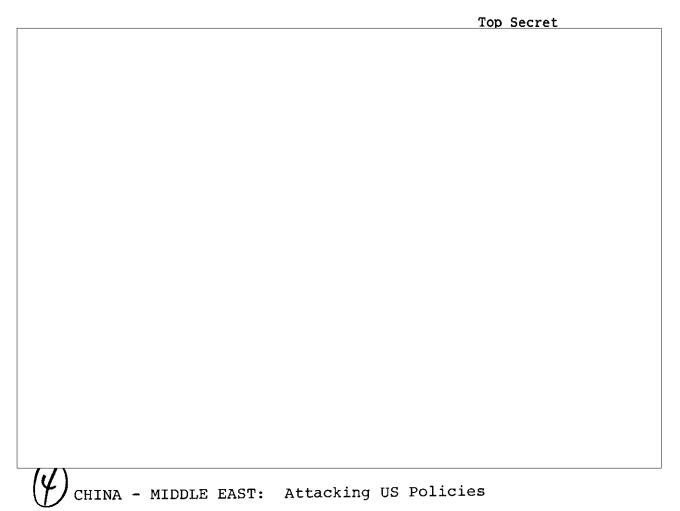


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China is increasing its public criticism of US actions relating to the crisis in Lebanon and for the first time in several years has directly denounced US mediation efforts in the region. In the past, Chinese commentary acknowledged the Camp David process, but Beijing now claims that Washington has shifted its policy radically and is giving full-fledged backing to Israel. Moreover, a rare government statement condemned "US complicity" in the Israeli invasion, and the Chinese later publicized their provision of relief funds to the PLO.

Comment: China's public stance, including its reduced attention to possible Soviet meddling in the crisis, suggests Beijing currently sees little, if any, common ground for cooperation with the US in the Middle East. Chinese influence in the region is limited, and Beijing is frustrated by the damage done to the PLO--one of China's few avenues for involvement in the area.

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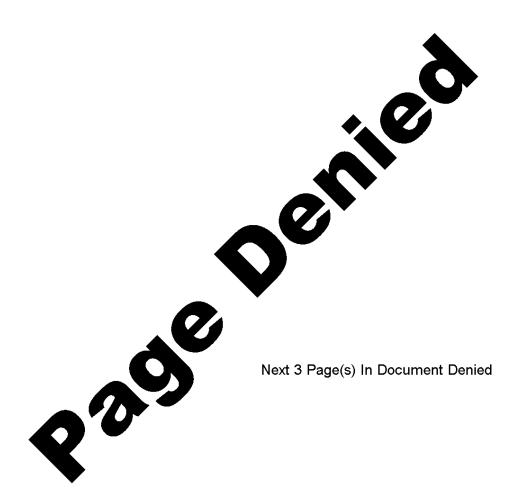
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SOUTH AFRICA - ZIMBABWE: Improved Relation	ons		
Relations between South Africa and Z	imbabwe, which		
reached a low point late last year, are no	ow being con-		
ducted more pragmatically. Pretoria is a	iding in trans-		
porting fuel to Zimbabwe and is exchanging high-level officials.	g visits of		
might-level officials.			
/ Comment: South Africa's pursuit of o	cooperative		
policies toward Zimbabwe reflects a sensit	tivity to US		
preferences. Relations could quickly sound	again, however,		
over such issues as the negotiations on Namibia or Prime			
Minister Mugabe's vocal support for black South African			
nationalists. Harare's opposition to apar	the id policies		
bars any permanent improvement in relation	ns.		

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